

# THE VIEW from Y C Q

VOLUME 8 NUMBER 3 SEPTEMBER 25, 2009 7 TISHREI 5770

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Candle Lighting: 6:31

Havdallah: 7:32

Monday, Sept. 28

No Sessions  
Yom Kippur

Friday, October 2 -

Sunday, October 11

No Sessions  
Succot Vacation

Monday, October 12

Sessions Resume  
No Bus Service  
3:30 Dismissal K-8  
Columbus Day

Sunday, October 18

JHS Parent-Child  
Learning Program  
Begins 9-11 AM

Tuesday, October 20

New Family  
Welcome Reception  
8 PM

## YCQ Family News

Mazel Tov to  
Josh Ustaev,  
Sam Abaev and  
Gilli Israel upon  
becoming  
Bnei Mitzvah!!

Condolences to  
Rabbi Lipsker (music)  
upon the loss of his  
brother.

## Yom Kippur - 5770 By: Rabbi Landsman

Our actions, prayers and even external clothing on *Yom Kippur* appear to be replete with one fundamental contradiction, are we presenting ourselves as sinners humbly requesting forgiveness or are we portraying ourselves as pure angels in the service of *Hashem*?

Rabbi Zvi Sobolofsky, Rosh Yeshiva, Yeshiva University, explains that this dual existence, as sinners and angels, is reflected throughout our *tefillot* on *Yom Kippur*. Our constant reference to sin highlighted by the numerous times *viduy* is recited, portrays us as contrite sinners. Yet we also play a very different role throughout our *teffilot*. Unlike any other day, we recite "*Baruch sheim kavod malchuto l'olam vaed*" in a loud voice. A phrase normally reserved for angels to cry out, we take advantage of our angelic status in this unique praise.

Even in our external appearance we are simultaneously sinners and angels. It is customary for married men to wear a *kittel* on *Yom Kippur*. The *kittel* is representative of death. We stand before *Hashem* in shrouds, acknowledging our mortality. Knowing that our very lives are now on the line, subject to our repentance from sin, the most appropriate garment to don is the one which conjures up the image that frightens us the most. Yet the *kittel* also has a very inspiring message as well. The angels are described as wearing white robes. The *kohein gadol* on *Yom kippur* upon entering the *kodesh hakodoshim* wears such a robe. We too, emulating the *kohein gadol* and the angels, dress in white which radiates the purity of the heavenly angels.

How should we understand these apparent contradictions on *Yom Kippur* in the realm of action, prayer, and dress? Who are we really on this special day, sinners focusing on the frailty of life, or angels in the service of *Hashem*?

The apparent contradiction teaches us a fundamental lesson that we must internalize on *Yom Kippur*. The *Yom Kippur* service in the *Beit Hamikdash* revolved around the two goats that were brought, one as a *korban la'Hashem* and the other thrown off a cliff as the *sair la'azazel*. These two goats had to be identical in size, appearance, and cost. Although externally identical their fates were completely different. One would be chosen for the noble task of being a *korban la'Hashem*, whereas the other would be destined for destruction.

On *Yom Kippur* we are faced with the decision whether to become a *sair la'Hashem* or a *sair la'azazel*. These two images play out before us throughout the day and are reinforced by our actions, prayers, and dress. Who are we? Are we the sinners who seek atonement by abstaining from pleasure or are we the angels who have no need for physical pleasure? Are we laden with sin that we must repeatedly confess, or are we angels singing the praise of *Hashem*? Are we mere mortals who fear death as a result of our sins, or are we heavenly beings dressed in white symbolizing our purity?

Rabbi Sobolofsky explains that the essence of *Yom Kippur* is to undergo a transformation. We begin the day with these two images before us. Are we going to become the *sair la'azazel*, laden with sin, destined for destruction, or are we going to chose the path of the *sair la'Hashem* whose very existence is to enter the *kodesh hakodoshim* as a *korban la'Hashem*? By the end of the day we realize that the only path to take is the path of the *sair la'Hashem*. We are no longer sinners, suffering from our abstaining from pleasure, confessing our sins dressed in shrouds. We have become angels, praising *Hashem*, dressed in white robes of purity. May we all merit to make this transformation on this *Yom Kippur* and in this merit may *Hashem* bless all of us with a *gamar chatima tova*. *Shabbat Shalom* and *Gamar Tov!*



## Teshuva Assemblies

This past week, the YCQ students learned about the importance of *Aseret Yemei Teshuvah* through meaningful and inspiring assemblies. The first through fifth graders had a *Yom Kippur teshuva* assembly with Rabbi Landsman and Rabbi Sadigh. Rabbi Landsman told a story about the significance of *teshuvah* and Rabbi Sadigh performed the *kapparot* ceremony with the children. Each and every child had the opportunity to give *tzedaka* to signify a *shana tova*. The JHS students heard Rabbi Finkelman, *mashgiach ruchani* of Yeshivat Ohr Hachaim in Kew Gardens Hills, speak to the students about the opportunities to improve themselves and to get closer to *Hashem* this *Yom Kippur* with stories and anecdotes that were very inspiring.



### Rabbi Lavi Greenspan Speaks to the Eighth Grade Students

On Tuesday afternoon, the eighth grade students had the privilege of hearing Rabbi Lavi Greenspan speak about his life story. Lavi became blind in his mid-twenties while studying at Fordham Law School. He had previously graduated YCQ, Yeshiva of Flatbush High School and received a BA from Yeshiva University. After becoming blind, he completed law school and passed the Bar exam and furthered his graduate education by obtaining Smicha from Yeshiva University. He is currently enrolled in Long Island University for a Masters Degree in Social Work and he is a social work intern in YCQ. He is humorous, outgoing and extremely personable. The students loved his stories and jokes and enjoyed his words of compassion and wisdom. We are truly lucky to have Lavi at YCQ to inspire our students!



## IMPORTANT REMINDER!!

### YCQ IS A NUT-FREE SCHOOL.

**ALL FOOD SENT INTO YCQ MUST BE CHECKED FOR TRACES OF NUTS.  
EXAMPLES OF FOODS BEING SENT IN WITH NUTS ARE:  
YO CRUNCH YOGURT WITH REESES PIECES, BAMBA AND CHEX MIX.**

## PA NEWS

The Parents Association mission is to enhance the scholastic, social and religious life of our children at school. To that end, we sponsor events such as the Author Series, Book fair, Chanukah boutique, Tu B'shvat shuk and many more. We have also contributed to the schools upgrading of the library, art room and have subsidized end of year school trips. With our fund raising efforts, we have purchased projectors, math manipulatives, gym equipment, new sound equipment and much more. All these efforts involve your participation, in whatever way you can give. **General Mills Box Tops**- now on so many of the products that you buy- yields us hundreds of dollars each year. All you have to do is cut them out (neatness counts!) and send them in with your children. Please be sure and mark your child's grade and classroom- the class that brings in the most box tops wins a pizza party lunch at the end of the school year. Shopping at **Target**- use your **Red Target** charge card and earn cash for our school. Is the **Jewish Press** on your weekly reading schedule?- clip the **Points for Education** coupon and send it in- these coupons have earned us thousands of dollars in Artscroll gift certificates that have been used to purchase books for our library. Lastly, if you have more time to volunteer, we always have opportunities to contribute. Please contact us at [pa@ycqweb.org](mailto:pa@ycqweb.org) \*PLEASE SEE ATTACHED FLIERS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION\*



# Teshuvah Assemblies



MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2009 COLUMBUS DAY

**NO QUEENS BUS SERVICE**

**PICKUP LOCATIONS FOR DISMISSAL**

**Nursery:**

Dismissal from Main Lobby \*(3:00 M-TH & 1:00 Fri.)

**Kindergarten:**

Classrooms (3:30 M-TH and 1:15 Fri.)

**1st & 2nd Grades:**

Shul (3:30 M-TH and 1:15 Fri.)

**3rd, 4th & 5th Grades:**

Lunchroom (3:30 M-TH and 1:15 Fri.)

**JHS Students:**

Will be dismissed from their classrooms.

(3:30 M-TH and 1:15 Fri.)

Parents will not be admitted into the building to pick up their children before their scheduled times.

THE YARD WILL BE OPEN FOR PARENT PARKING.

DOUBLE PARKING IS PROHIBITED.

VIOLATORS WILL BE TICKETED BY THE NYPD.

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**LONG ISLAND BUS SERVICE**

**There will be NO LONG ISLAND BUS SERVICE on**

**Monday, October 12, 2009, Columbus Day.**

**Long Island Parents should please follow  
the above pick-up procedures.**

# **ATTENTION GRADE EIGHT PARENTS AND STUDENTS**

## **High School Open House Schedule**

### **Sunday, October 25, 2009**

Flatbush - 12:00

HAFTR - 10:00-12:00

Ramaz

SKA - 9:00-12:00

MTA - 9:30

### **Sunday, November 1, 2009**

North Shore - 10:00-1:00

Rambam Mesivta - 2:00-4:00

SAR - 1:00-4:00

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### **Sunday, November 8, 2009**

DRS - 1:30-4:00

Central

### **Sunday, November 15, 2009**

HANC - 10:00-1:00

North Shore - 10:00-1:00

Shalhevet - 10:30-1:30

### **Sunday, November 22, 2009**

BJE High School Entrance Exam

# Parsha Primer

מפרי הפרשה



#353 September 26, 2009

HAAZINU-SHUVA

האזינו-שובה

בס"ד ה' תשרי תש"ע

The Shabbat between Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur is known as **Shabbat Shuva**, or **Shabbat Teshuva**. Either way, its name reflects the fact that it is the Shabbat of the ten days of repentance (teshuva). While thinking about how Hashem will judge us in a few days, on Yom Kippur, it's important to keep in mind how we judge other people. If we want Hashem to view us favorably, we should also learn to view others favorably, as we will learn in **Middah of the Week**. **Mitzvah of the Week** will be replaced with a review of the Torah reading for Yom Kippur. **Shabbat Shalom and Gemar Chatima Tova!**

Devarim 32:1-32:52

ליל שבת

## PARSHA IN A NUTSHELL- סיכום הפרשה

Haazinu is very easy to find in the Torah, because of the unique way in which it is written. Each line of Haazinu is written in two columns (instead of the usual single column style of writing), meaning that a space divides each line. Here are a few lines from the parsha to help give you an idea of what this means:

Here you can see a few lines of the two columns of Haazinu, in the spaces usually reserved for one column.

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| ותשמע הארץ אמרי פי | האזינו השמים ואזכרה |
| תזל כסל אמרתי      | יערף כמטר לקווי     |
| וכרביעים עלי עשב   | כשעירים עלי רשא     |
| הבו גדל לאלקינו    | כי שם ה' אקרא       |
| כי כל דרכיו משפט   | הצור תמים פעלו      |
| גדיק וישר הוא      | אל אמונה ואין עול   |
| דור עקש ופתלתל     | שחת לו לא בניו מומם |

Haazinu begins with Moshe Rabbeinu asking the heavens and the earth to bear witness to his words, and to Bnei Yisrael to listen and live accordingly. Moshe asks Bnei Yisrael to remember the history of the world, and especially the history of their nation, so that they should always remember the good that Hashem did for them. Doing so will remind them to be grateful to Hashem and not leave His Torah.

At the end of the parsha Moshe once again reminds Bnei Yisrael to pay careful attention to this shira (song). Hashem commanded Moshe to climb Har Nevo, look at Eretz C'naan, and prepare for his death.

Preparation for Yom Kippur

סעודה שניה

## TORAH READING FOR YOM KIPPUR

We read from the Torah twice on Yom Kippur. The first time is following shacharit, the morning prayers, and the second is during mincha, the afternoon prayers.

Following shacharit, two sifrei Torah are taken out of the aron. In the first we read from Sefer Vayikra (16), the description of the unique Yom Kippur service carried out by the Cohen Gadol.

The maftir (the final aliyah) is read from the second sefer Torah in Bamidbar (29), which includes more details of the Yom Kippur service in the Beit Hamikdash.

Generally, five people and a maftir (the final aliyah) are called up to the Torah on festivals, six people and a maftir are called up to the Torah on Yom Kippur, and seven people and a maftir are called to the Torah on Shabbat. This year Yom Kippur is on a weekday, so six people and a maftir are called up to the Torah.

One sefer Torah is taken out at mincha, and a selection from Vayikra (18) about the sanctity of the Jewish family and its laws is read.

A special haftara is read at mincha: the entire book of Yonah. The book of Yonah describes Yonah's refusal to carry out a prophetic mission G-d gave him, his attempt to escape from G-d, and the amazing things that happened to him. We learn from Yonah that man can't run away from G-d. The people of Ninveh, who repented and were saved, teach us about the power of teshuva (repentance).



The Mishna points out an important aspect of Ninveh's teshuva. The people of Ninveh wore sack-clothes and fasted as part of their repentance, but the Navi stresses that Hashem forgave them because they turned away from their evil ways.

## SHABBAT HAAZINU - SHUVA 5770



Candle lighting:

Havdala:

Dedications for the 5770 school year are still available. Contact: tzvi@halachayomit.com

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## Middah of the Week מידת השבוע

וַיַּעֲבֹר ה' עַל פְּנֵי וַיִּקְרָא: ה', ה', אֵל, רַחוּם, וְחַנוּן, אֶרְךְ אַפַּיִם,  
וְרַב חַסֵּד, וְאֱמֶת: נֹצֵר חֶסֶד לְאֲלֵכִים, נֹשֵׂא עוֹן, וְנֹשֵׂעַ, וְחַסְדָּה,  
וְנִקְהָה... וְנִקְהָה

And Hashem passed before him [Moshe] and proclaimed:

Hashem, Hashem, G-d, compassionate and gracious, Slow to anger and Abundant in Kindness and Truth. Preserver of kindness for thousands of generations, Forgiver of iniquity, willful sin and error and Who cleanses.... (Shmot 34:6-7)

The thirteen attributes of Hashem's mercy in the verses quoted above, are an important prayer, especially at this time of the year. They form what is perhaps the most important part of the *selichot* that we have been saying for a few weeks now, and they are said again and again during the *Yom Kippur* prayers as well.

What are the thirteen attributes of mercy and why are they so important?

Following *chet ha'egel*, the sin of the golden calf, Moshe pleaded with Hashem to forgive *Bnei Yisrael*. The *Talmud* explains that Hashem taught Moshe the 13 attributes of His mercy and told him that when *Bnei Yisrael* sin they should say these *middot* of Hashem and they will be forgiven.

Is it possible that just saying these *pesukim* is really enough to achieve forgiveness? According to some commentaries, saying the 13 attributes, combined with *teshuva* (repentance) is indeed the solution.

Rabbi Avraham ben Yaakov Saba זצ"ל was a rav in Spain, during the expulsion of Jews from Spain. He suffered greatly. His children were kidnapped and baptized, and his writings were all lost when he was forced to leave them

behind in Spain. He explains the effectiveness of the 13 attributes as follows:

Hashem's will is that the 13 attributes achieve forgiveness when *Bnei Yisrael* adopt the *middot*: When they are merciful and care for the poor. When they are slow to anger (are patient with each other). When they do acts of kindness for each other and are forgiving to each other.

In other words, it's not enough to read the 13 attributes. We have to internalize Hashem's mercy, and become merciful and caring people (and the same is true for the other *middot*). That's what makes us worthy of Hashem's consideration.

Perhaps this can help us understand a limitation placed upon the saying of the thirteen attributes. The *middot* may only be said in a *minyan* (quorum of ten men). Why is a *minyan* required?

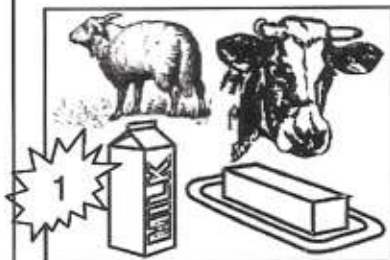
Rabbi Saba's logic can guide us to the answer. Finding a human who perfectly incorporates all thirteen *middot* in his personality and dealings with others is highly unlikely. Yet when ten or more people gather together we are likely to find that each of them successfully adopted some of the *middot*. Together they form a group in which the thirteen *middot* are represented, making them worthy of Hashem's mercy.\*

So when saying the thirteen attributes of Hashem's mercy, it's important not just to say them, but to think of ways to implement them in our lives.

\**Ma'or Vashemesh*  
Translation of 13 attributes and Hebrew punctuation from ArtScroll Siddur.



The two picture riddles represent *pesukim*, *mitzvot* or personalities from the *parsha* (*Haazinu*).



## sedra stats

**Note:** In this section we refer to the *Parsha* as a *Sedra*, and the term *Parsha* refers to the sections separated by spaces in the *Sefer Torah*.

- 53<sup>rd</sup> out of 54 *sedras* in the *Torah*
- 10<sup>th</sup> of 11 *sedras* in *Sefer D'varim*
- 52 *pesukim*, ranks 51<sup>st</sup> (out of all the *sedras* of the *Torah* in this category)
- 614 words, ranks 52<sup>nd</sup>
- 2326 letters, ranks 52<sup>nd</sup>
- According to *Sefer Hahinuch Haazinu* contains none of the 613 *mitzvot*, while the *Rambam* counts 1 *mitzvah*.

Thanks to *Torah Tidbits* for permission to reprint this column

## ANSWERS TO PICTURE RIDDLES FOR NITZAVIM - VAYELECH

The chain riddle contained 10 words that formed a chain. The last letter of each word was the first letter of the following word. The following are the answers:

1. תשליך 2. כבש 3. שופרות 4. תשרי 5. ימים נוראים 6. מלכויות 7. תקיעה 8. הלל 9. לבן 10. נרות

The chain that was produced would read as follows:

תשליכשופרותשרימים נוראימלכויותקיעהללבנרות

# ***BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION***

more fun means more funds



**Lend a  
Helping Hand!  
Save Box Tops!**

**The class that brings in the most box tops will be treated to a pizza party.**

**GIVE YOUR BOX TOPS TO YOUR TEACHER**

**REMIND YOUR TEACHER TO GIVE THE  
CLASS ENVELOPE TO MRS. BLOCK WITH  
YOUR ROOM NUMBER ON THE ENVELOPE**

***YCQ PARENTS ASSOCIATION***



Yeshiva of  
Central  
Queens

Parents' Association



# POINTS FOR EDUCATION

## PROGRAM

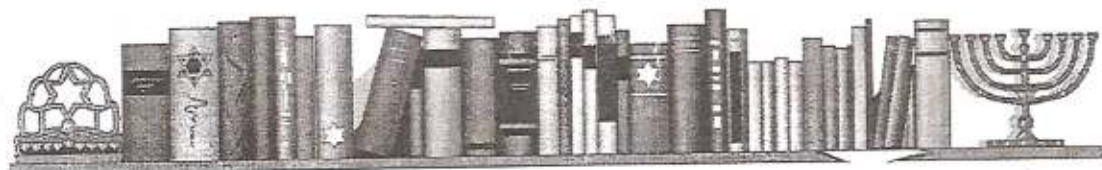
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Our yeshiva can benefit by receiving valuable seforim & other educational materials from **ArtScroll** and **Davka** thru The Jewish Press, POINTS FOR EDUCATION Program. If you read The Jewish Press, all you have to do is clip the POINTS FOR EDUCATION coupon that usually appears weekly on page 38.

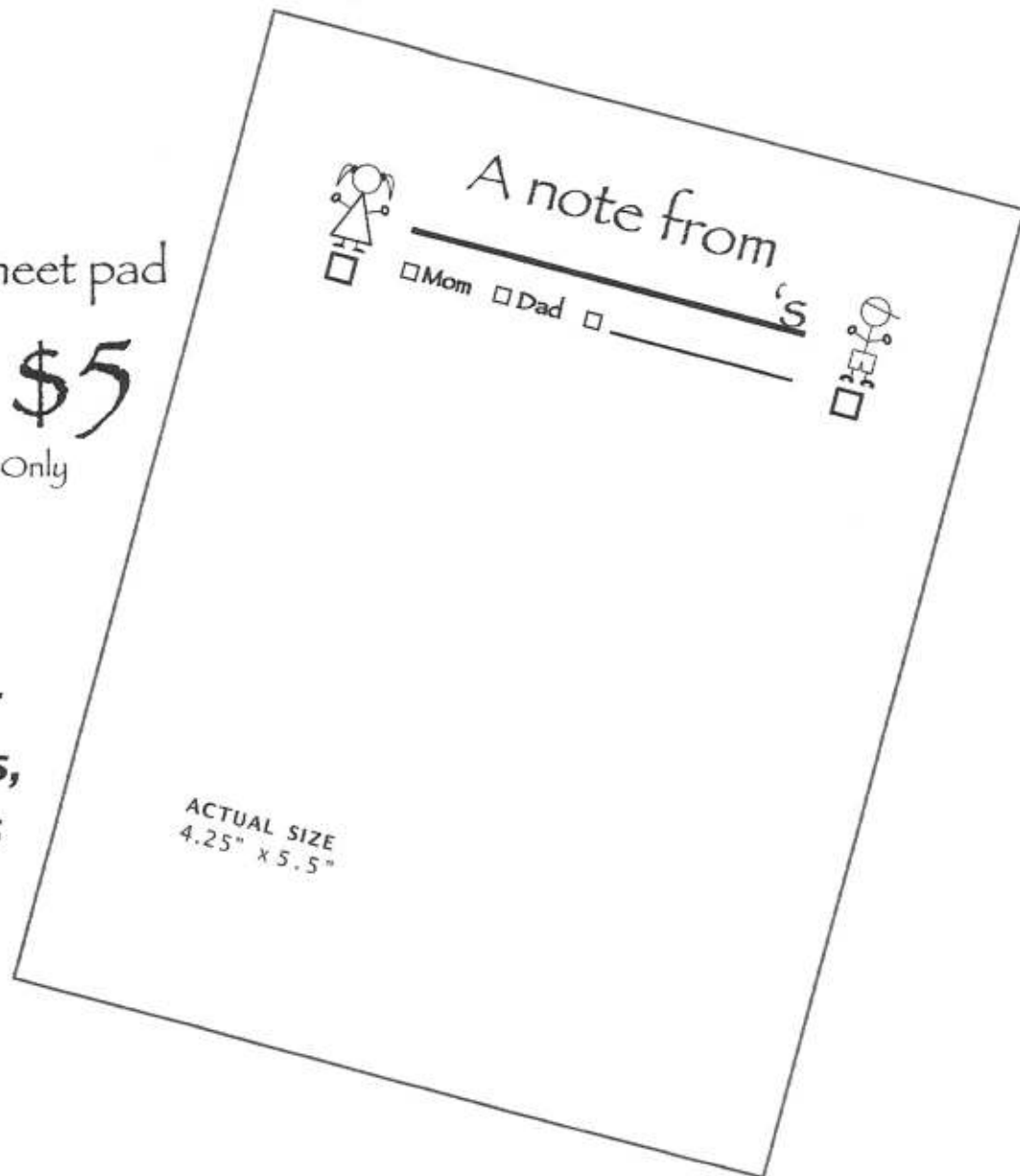


# YCQ Parent's Association Mitzvah Note Pads

Personalize a note for every member of the family

**\$3** per 50 sheet pad  
**2 for \$5**  
Cash or Check Only

**Makes a  
great gift for  
grandparents,  
aunts, uncles  
and friends!**



YES, I'd like to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ Mitzvah Note Pad(s)

Enclosed is a  check /  cash for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please deliver my pad(s) to my child \_\_\_\_\_  
in class \_\_\_\_\_

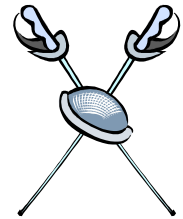
Parent's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit orders to the Business office attn: YCQ PA by October 20, 2009 (or while supplies last)

# Learn to Fence at YCQ

with

**The North Shore Fencing Club**  
**Vladimir Gofman – Head Coach**



**The sport of fencing is more than fun.**

It helps build muscle strength and develop motor skills.  
Fencing teaches mental discipline and sportsmanship.

**Fencing has often been described as “physical chess.”**

Competitors need to “think” before they “react”.

**Fencing is an Olympic sport.**

Colleges from Yeshiva University to Princeton have competitive fencing teams.

**First year students will learn basic footwork, play a variety of fencing-related games that emphasize fencing skills and improve their coordinate speed and simple tactics.**

**Second year students will further advance their skills.**

**Class is currently open to boys grades 5-8.  
Class will be held Tuesday from 4:30-5:30.**

**If any girls are interested in taking fencing in a separate class, please contact Jennifer Karkowsky or Carey Davidson at 718-468-1035.**

# Fencing Registration

Registration is on a first come/first serve basis as the class is limited to 13 students.

**All forms are due no later than October 12.**

Fee: \$300 for 20 one-hour classes starting October 20. The fee is to be paid in two installments of \$150 each. A one-time equipment fee (e.g., masks, gloves, foils, etc.) of \$60 will cover each student for the 20-week session.

Please fill out the form below and return it along with payment to either Chana in Mr. Cohen's office or Gloria in JH office no later than October 12<sup>th</sup>.

## **To Register:**

Fill out the form below and enclose with a check for \$210 (1<sup>st</sup> installment plus equipment fee) made payable to "North Shore Fencing Club".

The second installment is due on December 21.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Check No: \_\_\_\_\_